

THE  
*Sense of the Nation,*  
Concerning the  
**D U K E**  
OF  
**MARLBOROUGH,**  
As it is express'd in several  
**Acts of PARLIAMENT**  
IN THE  
Votes and Joint Addresses of both  
HOUSES,  
AND  
In Her Majesty's Most Gracious Messages  
and Answers.

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L O N D O N:  
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# V O T E S O F T H E House of Commons.

*In the Address of the House of Commons, the 27th of October 1702.*

**T**H E late Disappointment at Cadiz, does the more affect us, because it gives your Majesty so much Trouble ; but this Misfortune cannot make us forget, That the Protection and Security of our Trade, the Vigorous Support of your Majesty's Allies, and the Wonderful Progress of your Majesty's Arms, under the Conduct of the Earl of Marlborough, have signally retriev'd the Ancient Honour and Glory of the English Nation.

10th Novemb.

Resolved Nemine Contradicente,

That the Thanks of this House be returned to the Earl of Marlborough, Captain-General of his Majesty's Forces, for the great and signal Services by him performed for this Nation in the late Campaign.

Ordered,

That a Committee be appointed to attend his Lordship upon his arrival, to congratulate the same, and give him the said Thanks : And a Committee was accordingly appointed.

10th Decemb.

Mr. Secretary Hedges acquainted the House, That her Majesty had commanded him to bring a Message to

( 4 )

this House, which was sign'd by her Majesty ; and he presented the same to the House, and it was read by Mr. Speaker, and is as followeth, viz.

ANNE R.

THE Earl of Marlborough's Services to her Majesty, and to the Publick, have been so eminent, both in his Command of the Army, and in his having established an entire Confidence and good Correspondence between her Majesty and the States-General, that she has thought fit to grant the Title of Duke of this Kingdom to him, and to the Heirs Male of his Body ; as also, a Pension of Five Thousand Pounds per Annum, upon the Revenue of the Post-Office, for the support of that Honour, during her Majesty's natural Life.

If it had been in her Majesty's Power, she would have granted the same Term in the Pension, as in the Honour ; and she hopes you will think it so reasonable in this Case, as to find some proper Method of doing it.

16th Decemb.

Resolved,

That it is the Opinion of this House, That the House be mov'd, That an humble Address be presented to her Majesty, expressing the great Satisfaction they have, that her Majesty has so just a Value of the Duke of Marlborough's Services, whereby her Majesty and the Publick have so great Advantage ; and humbly to lay before her Majesty, the great Trouble they have, that they cannot comply with her Majesty to make a Precedent, by alienating the Revenue of the Crown, which hath been so lately settled, and has been so much reduc'd by Exorbitant Grants in the last Reign ; and to assure her Majesty, That when she thinks fit to reward such great Services, it will be to the entire Satisfaction of her People.

The

The humble Address of the House of Commons to the Queen.

*WE* your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Commons in Parliament assembled, humbly beg leave to declare our unanimous Satisfaction, in the just Esteem your Majesty has been pleased to express of the eminent Services performed by the Duke of Marlborough, who has not only by his Conduct of the Army retrieved the ancient Honour and Glory of the English Nation, but by his Negotiations establish'd an entire Confidence and good Correspondence between your Majesty and the States-General, and therein vindicated the Gentlemen of England, who had, by the vile Practices of designing Men, been traduced, and industriously represented as false to your Majesty's Allies, because they were true to the Interest of their Country.

It is to their unexpressible Grief, that your Majesty's most dutiful Commons find any Instance wherein they are unable to comply with what your Majesty proposes to them: But they beg leave humbly to lay before your Majesty, the Apprehensions they have of making a Precedent for future Alienations of the Revenue of the Crown, which has been so much reduced by the Exorbitant Grants of the last Reign, and which has been so lately settled and secured by your Majesty's unparallel'd Grace and Goodness.

We are infinitely pleased to observe by your Majesty's late gracious Acceptance of the Duke of Marlborough's Services, That the only way to obtain your Majesty's Favour, is to deserve well from the Publick; And we beg leave to assure your Majesty, That whenever you shall think fit to reward such Merit, it will be to the entire Satisfaction of your People.

20th Decemb.

Mr. Speaker reported, That the House yesterday attended her Majesty with their Address, relating to the Duke of Marlborough; and that her Majesty was pleased to give the gracious Answer following.

*I Shall always think my self much concerned to reward those who deserve well of Me and of the Publick. On this Account I bestowed some Favours on the Duke of Marlborough ; and I am glad to find you think they have been well placed.*

The Address of the House of Commons to the Queen.

1704.

*Most Gracious Sovereign !*

**W**E, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Knights, Citizens, and Burgeesses in Parliament assembled, do beg leave to return your Majesty our most humble and hearty Thanks, for your Majesty's most gracious Speech from the Throne ; and to congratulate your Majesty upon the great and glorious Successes with which it hath pleased God to bless your Majesty, in the entire Defeat of the united Force of France and Bavaria, by the Arms of your Majesty and your Allies, under the Command, and by the Courage and Conduct of the Duke of Marlborough, &c.

14 Decemb.

*Resolved Nemine Contradicente,*

That the Thanks of this House be given to his Grace the Duke of Marlborough, for the eminent Services he has performed to her Majesty and this Kingdom, as well by the glorious Victories which have been obtained by the Arms of her Majesty and her Allies, under his Grace's Command ; as also for his prudent Negotiations with several Princes and States.

*Resolved,*

That a Committee be appointed to attend his Grace ; and in the name of this House to congratulate his safe arrival, and to give him the said Thanks of this House.

A Committee was appointed accordingly.

15th Decemb.

Mr. Comptroler (Sir Thomas Mansel) reported, That the Committee appointed, had waited upon his Grace the Duke of Marlborough, and given him the Thanks of the House, and congratulated his Arrival as they were directed : And that thereupon his Grace was pleased to say to this Effect ;

*It*

*IT is a great Satisfaction to me, to find that my faithful Endeavours in discharging my Duty to the Queen, and to the Publick are so favourably accepted.*

*I beg Leave to take this Opportunity of doing Justice to a Great Body of Officers and Soldiers, who accompanied me in this Expedition, and all behaved Themselves with the greatest Bravery Imaginable: And I am sure this Honour done us by the House of Commons in taking so much notice of it will give a general Satisfaction, and Encouragement to the whole Army.*

8th January.

*Resolved Nemine Contradicente,*

*That a Day be appointed for taking into Consideration, the Great Services that have been performed by his Grace the Duke of Marlborough the last Summer, and to consider of some means to perpetuate the Memory of them.*

*Resolved,*

*That this House will upon Thursday Morning next, take the same into Consideration.*

11th January.

*Resolved Nemine Contradicente,*

*That an Humble Address be presented to Her Majesty expressing the Great Sense this House hath of the Glorious Victories obtained by the Forces of her Majesty, and her Allies under the Command of his Grace the Duke of Marlborough, and humbly to desire her Majesty, That she would be graciously pleased to consider of some proper Means, to perpetuate the Memory of the great Services performed by the said Duke.*

*Resolved,*

*That the said Address be presented to her Majesty by the whole House.*

*Ordered,*

*That such Members of this House, as are of her Majesties most Honourable Privy Council, do humbly know her Majesties Pleasure, when she will be attended by this House.*

12th January.

*Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, acquainted the House that her Majesty had been pleased to appoint being*

ing attended by this House this Afternoon at Four a Clock, at her Palace of St. James's.

13th January.

Mr. Speaker (Mr. Harley) acquainted the House, That they did Yesterday present their Address to her Majesty with Relation to his Grace the Duke of Marlborough, and that her Majesty was pleased to give this Gracious Answer.

Gentlemen,

*I am very well pleased with Your Address, and I will take it into Consideration as you desire, and send you my Thoughts upon it in a little while.*

17th January.

Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer acquainted the House, That he had a Message Signed by her Majesty; And he delivered it to Mr. Speaker, who read the same to the House, and is as followeth;

A N N E R.

*H*ER Majesty having taken into her Consideration the Address of this House, relating to the great Services performed by the Duke of Marlborough, does incline to grant the Interest of the Crown in the Honour and Manor of Woodstock, and Hundred of Wootton, to him and his Heirs; and desires the Assistance of this House upon this Extraordinary Occasion.

*The Lieutenant and Rangership of the Parks, with the Rents and Profits of the Manor and Hundred, being granted for two Lives, her Majesty thinks it Proper that Incumbrance should be cleared.*

*Resolved,*

That a Bill be brought in, to enable her Majesty to grant the Honour and Manor of Woodstock, and Hundred of Wootton, to the Duke of Marlborough and his Heirs; and that Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Bruges, Mr. Coke, Mr. Solicitor General (Sir S. Harcourt,) Lord Coningsby, Mr. Walpole, and Sir Charles Hotman, do prepare and bring in the Bill.

*Resolved,*

*Resolved,*

That an Humble Address be presented to heir Majesty, That she will be graciously pleased to advance the Money for clearing the Present Incumbrance upon the Lieutenancy and Rangership of the Parks, Rents and Profits of the Honour and Manor of *Woodstock*, and Hundred of *Wootton*, in order to the Present Settlement thereof upon the Duke of *Marlborough* and his Heirs.

*Ordered,*

That the said Address be presented to her Majesty by such Members of this House as are of her Majesty's most Honourable Privy Council.

*20th January.*

Mr. Chancellor of the *Exchequer* acquainted the House, That their Address haveing been presented to her Majesty, her Majesty was pleased to command him to acquaint this House, that she would give Directions therein as is desired.

*25th January.*

Mr. Chancellor of the *Exchequer* (according to order) presented to the House a Bill for better enabling her Majesty, to grant the Honour and Manor of *Woodstock*, with the Hundred of *Wootton*, to the Duke of *Marlborough* and his Heirs, &c.

*29th January.*

Mr. Secretary *Hedges* acquainted the House that her Majesty had Commanded him, to lay before this House a Copy of the Treaty with the King of *Prussia* made on her Behalf by the Duke of *Marlborough* the 28th of November 1704.

*3d February.*

An Engrossed Bill for the better enabling her Majesty to grant the Honour and Manor of *Woodstock*, with the Hundred of *Wootton*, to the Duke of *Marlborough* and his Heirs, in Consideration of the Eminent Services by him performed to her Majesty and the Publick, was read the third Time.

*Resolved Nenine Contradicente,*

That the Bill do Pass.

*Ordered,*

*Ordered,*

That Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer do carry the Bill to the Lords, and desire their Concurrence thereunto.

*5th Febr.*

A Message from the Lords by Sir Robert Legard and Mr. Pitt; That the Lords have agreed to the Bill Entituled, *An Act for the better enabling Her Majesty, to grant the Honour and Manor of Woodstock, with the Hundred of Wootton, to the Duke of Marlborough and his Heirs, in Consideration of the eminent Services by him performed; without Amendment.*

Preamble of an Act, for the better enabling Her Majesty to grant the Honour and Manor of Woodstock, &c. to the Duke of Marlborough and his Heirs, in Consideration of the eminent Services by him performed to Her Majesty and the Publick.

*1704.*

*Myst Gracious Sovereign,*

Whereas the eminent and unparalleled Services performed to your Majesty, and the Crown of England, by the most noble soon Duke of Marlborough, are well known, not only to your Majesty and all your Subjects, but to all Europe; who will always remember, that the Alliance which your Majesty's Royal Brother King William III. of glorious Memory, had in a little time before his Death, contracted by the Ministry of the said Duke of Marlborough, as his Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary, and Plenipotentiary to the States General of the United Provinces, for preserving the Liberties of Europe against the Ambition of France, were immediately after your Majesty's Happy Accession to the Throne by the said Duke, then employed by your Majesty in the same Character, confirmed and improved, and others were contracted, whereby the Confederacy, which had been dissolv'd at the end of the last Year, was re-united in a sticer and firmer League: And that in the first Year of your Majesty's Reign, the said Duke of Marlborough did so well execute the Commission and Orders which he received from your Majesty,

Majesty, as Captain General, and Commander in Chief of your Majesty's Forces, That he not only extended the Frontier of *Holland*, by taking the Towns and Fortresses of *Venlo*, *Ruremond*, *Stevenswartz*, and *Leige*, but soon obliged the Enemy (who had been at the Gates of *Nimeghen*) to seek Shelter behind their Lines. And the next Campaign by taking *Bon*, *Huy* and *Limbourg*, added all the Country between the *Rhine* and the *Maes* to the Conquest of the preceeding Year. And that in the memorable Year One Thousand Seven Hundred and Four, when your Majesty was generously pleased to take the Resolution of rescuing the *Empire* from that immediate Ruin, to which by the Defection of the Elector of *Bavaria*, it was exposed, The Measures which by your Majesty's Wisdom and Goodnes had been devised and concerted, were pursued by the said Duke, with the utmost Diligence, Secresy, and good Conduct, in leading the Forces of your Majesty and your Allies, by a long and difficult March to the Banks of the *Danube*; where the said Duke immediately upon his Arrival, did attack and force the *Bavarians* (assisted by the *French*) in the strong Entrenchments at *Schellenberg*, passed the *Danube*, distressed the Country of *Bavaria*, and a second time fought the Enemies, who had been reinforced by the Royal Army of *France*: And on the second day of *August*, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Four, after a bloody Battle, at, or near *Blenheim* (altho' the Enemies had the Advantages of Number and Situation) did gain as absolute and glorious a Victory, as is recorded in the History of any Age; By which *Bavaria* being entirely reduced, *Ratisbon*, *Ausbourg*, *Ulm*, *Meminghen*, and other *Imperial* Towns recovered, the Liberty of the Dyet, and the Peace of the *Empire* was restored; and *Landau*, *Triers* and *Traarbach*, being taken, the War is carried into the Dominions of *France*. And forasmuch as the happy Atchievements of the the said Duke having apparently tended, not only to the honour and safety of your Majesty, and your Subjects, and of their Posterity, but also towards the future Tranquility of *Europe*, Your Majesty's

Majesty's most Dutiful and Loyal Subjects, the Commons of *England* in Parliament assembled, thought themselves obliged in an humble Address to your Majesty, not only to express their great Sense of the said glorious Victories, but also humbly to desire your Majesty, that you would be graciously pleased to consider of some proper means, to perpetuate the Memory of such signal Services, And your Majesty having been thereupon pleased to signifie your Intention, to grant the Interest of the Crown, in the Honour and Manor of *Woodstock*, and Hundred of *Wootton*, to the said Duke and his Heirs, Your Majesty's said Dutiful and Loyal Subjects, the Commons of *England* in Parliament assembled, duly considering the good and prudent Provision made by your Majesty, by an Act of Parliament in the first Year of your Reign, for preserving the Inheritance of several Revenues of the Crown, and believing that the Settlement of the said Honour, Mannor and Hundred, on the said Duke and his Heirs, can make no Precedent for Cases, where there is or shall be less Medicit; do most humbly, cheerfully, and unanimously beseech your Majesty, that it may be enacted, And be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent, of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons in this present Parliament Assembled, and by the Authority of the same, &c.

8th Febr.

*Resolved Nemine Contradicente.*

That an Humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, returning the Thanks of this House to Her Majesty, for concluding the late Treaty with the King of *Prusia*; which is so seasonable a Support to the Duke of *Savoy*, and so great an Advanrage to the Common Cause, &c.

7th Jan. 1705.

*Resolved,*

That the Thanks of this House be given to his Grace the Duke of *Marlborough*, for his great Services performed to Her Majesty, and the Nation in the last

Cam-

Campaign, and for his Prudent Negotiations with Her Majesty's Allies.

*Ordered,*

That a Committee be appointed to attend his Grace the Duke of *Marlborough*, and give him the said Thanks of the House, and a Committee was appointed accordingly.

8th Jan.

Mr *Walpole* reported, That the Committee appointed to give his Grace the Duke of *Marlborough* the Thanks of this House, for his great Services performed to Her Majesty, and the Nation in the last Campaign, and for his Prudent Negotiations with Her Majesty's Allies, had given his Grace the Thanks of this House accordingly, and that his Grace thereupon said, *I am so sensible of the great Honour that is done me by this Message, that I cannot have the least Concern at the Reflections of any private Malice, while I have the Satisfaction of finding my faithful Endeavours to serve the Queen and the Kingdom, so favourably accepted by the House of Commons.*

3d Decemb. 1706.

*Resolved Nemine Contradicente,*

That an Address be presented to Her Majesty, to return the Humble Thanks of this House, for Her Most Gracious Speech from the Throne, to congratulate Her Majesty upon the Glorious Victory obtained by her Arms, and those of Her Allies, under the Command of the Duke of *Marlborongh* at *Ramellies*, and the repeated Successes with which it hath pleased God to bless the Arms of Her Majesty, and Her Allies, beyond the Example of former Ages, &c.

The Address of the House of Commons to the Queen.

*Most Gracious Sovereign,*

WE your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects the Commons in Parliament assembled, return your Majesty our humble Thanks, for your most Gracious Speech from the Throne, and with all thankfulness to Almighty God, we congratulate your Majesty upon the signal Victory obtained by your Arms, under

der the Command of the Duke of *Marlborough* at *Ramillies*; a Victory so Glorious and Great in its Consequences, and attended with such continued Successes through the whole Course of this Year, that no Age can equal, &c.

20th Decemb.

A Message from the Lords by Mr. Justice *Powys*, and Mr. Justice *Dormer*, That the Lords have passed a Bill Entituled, *An Act for the settling the Honours and Dignities of John Duke of Marlborough upon his Posterity, and annexing the Honour and Manner of Woodstock, and House of Bleinheim, to go along with the said Honours*, To which they desire the Concurrence of this House.

The Bill was read the First Time.

*Resolved,*

That the Bill be read a Second Time.

The Bill was read a Second Time.

*Resolved,*

That the Bill be now read the Third Time.

The Bill was read the Third Time.

*Resolved Nemine Contradicente,*

That the Bill do Pass.

*Ordered,*

That the Earl of *Hertford* do Carry the Bill to the Lords, and acquaint Them that this House hath agreed to the same without any Amendment.

Part of her Majesty's most Gracious Speech When this and other Bills had the Royal Assent.

21st Decemb.

*The Particular Notice which you have taken of the Eminent Services of the Duke of Marlborough is also very agreeable to me, and I make no Question but it will be so to the Whole Kingdom.*

1706.

Preamble to An Act for the Setting the Honours and Dignities of John Duke of Marlborough upon his Posterity, and annexing the Honour and Manor of Woodstock, and House of Bleinheim, to go along with the said Honours.

WHereas the Lords Spiritual and Temporal in Parliament assembled, having with much satisfaction considered the many great Actions which John Duke of Marlborough has performed in her Majesty's Service, to the Honour of his Country, and for the Good of the Common Cause of Europe (such Actions as the Wisest and Greatest People have rewarded with Statues and Triumphs) and being extreamly desirous to express the just sense they have of his Merit in a peculiar and distinguishing Manner, and in order to perpetuate the Memory thereof, That his Titles and Honours, with his Right of Precedence, might be settled and continued in his Posterity by Act of Parliament, as the Method most effectual for that End, and best suiting so great an Occasion: Yet having always a just Regard for the Prerogatives of the Crown (her Majesty being the Sole Fountain of Honour) thought it their Duty in the First Place, by their Humble Address, to have recourse to her Majesty for her Royal Allowance, before any Order given for bringing in a Bill of such a Nature: And by their said Address did humbly desire her Majesty would be graciously pleased to let them know, in what Manner it would be most acceptable to her Majesty, the said Titles and Honours should be limited. In Answer whereto, her Majesty hath been pleased most graciously to declare, That nothing could be more Acceptable to her than the said Address; and that she was entirely satisfied with the Services of the Duke of Marlborough, and therefore could not but be pleased they had so just a Sense of Them; and did thereby declare her Royal Intention to be, That after the Determination of the Estate which the Duke of Marlborough now has in his Titles and Honours, the same should be limited in such manner, as is herein after declar'd and Enacted. There-

Therefore for perpetuating the Memory of the several great Actions performed by the said Duke, and for settling and continuing the Titles and Honours aforesaid, and the Right of Precedence in his Posterity, May it please Your most Excellent Majesty, that it may be enacted, and be it enacted by the Queens most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons in this present Parliament Assembled, and by the Authority of the same, &c.

*7th January.*

The House having taken into their Consideration the Eminent Services of John Duke of Marlborough, whereby the Glory of her Majesty's Government, the Honour and safety of the Kingdom, and the Interest of the Common Cause have been so highly advanced.

*Resolved,*

That an Address be presented to her Majesty, Humbly laying before her the just sense this House hath of the said Duke's Services, and their ready Disposition to enable her Majesty to make a Provision for the Support of his Honours and Dignities in his Posterity, in such a manner as maybe most agreeable to her Majesty.

*Ordered,*

That a Committee be appointed to draw up the said Address :

And a Committee was nominated accordingly :

And being returned,

Mr. Sollicitor General reported from the said Committee, That they had drawn up the said Address, which They had directed him to report to the House, which he read in his Place, and afterwards Delivered in at the Table, where the same was read, and without an Amendment agreed unto by the House.

*Resolved,*

That the said Address be presented to her Majesty by the whole House:

The

The Humble Address of the House of Commons to the Queen.

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Commons of *England*, in Parliament assembled, taking into our Consideration the many eminent Services of *John Duke of Marlborough*, whereby the Glory of your Majesty's Government, the Honour and Safety of your Kingdoms, and the Interest of the Common Cause have been so highly advanced, do, with all Submission address our selves to your Majesty's most Sacred Person, humbly to desire, that as your Majesty is at your Expence graciously pleased to erect the House of *Blenheim*, as a Monument of his glorious Actions, and the House of Peers, by your Majesty's Permission, have given rise to a Law, for continuing his Honours to his Posterity, We, your most obedient Commons, may be permitted to express our Sense of so distinguishing a Merit, and our ready Disposition to enable your Majesty to make some Provision for the more honourable Support of his Dignity in his Posterity, in such manner as shall be most agreeable to your Majesty.

Thus the Gratitude of the whole Kingdom will remain upon Record to after-Ages, and encourage others to follow his great Example.

9th January.

Mr. Speaker reported, That the House did yesterday present to her Majesty their Address relating to the Duke of *Marlborough*, and that her Majesty was pleased to give this gracious Answer, viz.

Gentlemen,

I Am very glad you have so just a Sense of the repeated Services of the Duke of *Marlborough*. I will consider of your Address, and return an Answer very speedily.

*Ibid.*

Mr. Secretary *Hilary* acquainted the House, That he had a Message sign'd by her Majesty, in Answer

to their Address yesterday, relating to the Duke of Marlborough; and he delivered the same to Mr. Speaker, who read the same to the House; and is as followeth:

## ANNE R.

**H**E R Majesty, in consideration of the great and eminent Services performed by the Lord Marlborough, in the first Year of her Reign, as well by his prudent Negotiations, as by his Valour and good Conduct in the Command of the Confederate Armies abroad, thought fit to grant to him, and the Heirs Male of his Body, the Title of a Duke of this Realm: And as a farther Mark of her Favour and Satisfaction with his Services, and for the better Support of his Dignity, her Majesty granted to the said Duke, and the Heirs Male of his Body, during her Life, a Pension of Five Thousand Pounds per Annum, out of the Revenue of the Post-Office; and an Act having passed this Sessions, for settling the Honours and Dignities of the Duke of Marlborough upon his Posterity, and annexing the Honour and Manor of Woodstock, and House of Blenheim, to go along with the said Honours, it would be very agreeable to her Majesty, if the Pension of Five Thousand Pounds per Annum be continued and limited by Act of Parliament to his Posterity, for the more honourable Support of their Dignities, in like manner as his Honours, and the Honour and Manor of Woodstock, and House of Blenheim, are already limited and settled.

Kensington, January 9. 170<sup>6</sup>.

## Resolved,

That a Bill be brought in, for continuing and settling upon John Duke of Marlborough, and his Posterity, the Pension of Five Thousand Pound per Annum (already granted by her Majesty) for the more honourable Support of their Dignities, in like manner as his Honours and Dignities, and the Honour and Manor of Woodstock, and House of Blenheim, are already limited and settled; and that Mr. Secretary Harley, Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, Lord Granby, Mr. Solli-

Solicitor-General, Collonel *Strangways*, Mr. *Verney*, Mr. *Portman*, and Mr. *Lowndes*, do prepare and bring in the Bill.

1706.

Preamble to an Act for settling upon John Duke of Marlborough, and his Posterity, a Pension of Five Thousand Pounds per Annum, for the more honourable Support of their Dignities, in like manner as his Honours and Dignities, and the Honour and Manor of Woodstock, and House of Blenheim, are already limited and settled.

*Most Gracious Sovereign!*

WHereas the most Noble John Duke of Marlborough, was by several Letters Patents created Baron *Churchill* of *Sandridge*, and Earl of *Marlborough*, to him and the Heirs Male of his Body; and by other Letters Patents, bearing Date the Fourteenth Day of December, in the First Year of your Majesty's Reign, in consideration of his great and eminent Services to your Majesty and your Allies, as well by his prudent Negotiations, as your Majesty's Plenipotentiary at the *Hague*, where, to the mutual Advantage of your Majesty, and the States General of the United Provinces, he settled an entire Confidence between your Majesty and the States General, as by his Valour and good Conduct in the Command of the confederate Armies abroad, was created, &c.

Here follows a recital of the Duke's former Services, and of the Grants of the Honour and Mannor of Woodstock, and House of Blenheim.

AND whereas in the beginning of the Year of One Thousand Seven Hundred and Five, the said Duke of Marlborough led your Majesty's Forces, and those of the Allies, to the *Moselle*; where, by the Progress made in the preceeding Year, a fair Prospect was afforded of removing the War from the Countries of your Allies into the Enemies own Territories;

ries; but that great Design, through unforeseen Accidents, was render'd impracticable; and the Enemy taking Advantage of the remoteness of your said General, and the Troops under his Command, press'd the Armies of the States-General, which were left for the Defence of their Frontiers, with a superior Force: On this extraordinary Occasion, the Duke shew'd all the Parts of a great Captain, and at the same time the Zeal he had for your Majesty's Service, and true Regard to your Allies; by a speedy March he returned to the *Maes*, where a new Face of Affairs immediately appeared, and your Majesty's good Allies, the Staets-General, were delivered from the Uneasiness they were under, *Liege* was reliev'd, *Huy* retaken, and the Enemies oblig'd to retire behind their Lines, which they thought impregnable: But the said Duke, with a surprizing Conduct and Bravery, on the Seventh Day of *July*, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Five, with an inconsiderable Loss, forced the same, defeated great part of the Enemies Forces, and obliged their whole Army to a precipitate Retreat; And although all the Advantages were not obtain'd, which the Duke had proposed to himself from that Success, yet it confirmed the Minds of your Majesty's Allies, and produced the happy Consequence of the Duke's being intrusted with such a Power, as gave him an Opportunity of performing those great Actions which were executed the last Campaign, in which the Enemy, confiding in the Superiority of their Army, composed of their choicest Troops, gave the Duke of *Marlborough* an Opportunity of attacking them, which he did at *Ramelles*, the Twelfth Day of *May*, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Six, with such Resolution and Conduct, that in Two Hours time he obtained a most complete and glorious Victory, and prosecuted his Advantage without any Interruption, during the whole Campaign: The Battle of *Ramelles* was followed by the immediate Surrender of *Lawain*, *Brussels*, *Malines*, *Liere*, *Ghent*, *Oudward*, *Antwerp*, *Dam*, *Bruges*, and *Courtray*; and the taking of *Ostend*, *Menin*, *Dendermond*, and *Aeth*, most

most of which Places had heretofore employ'd the greatest Generals whole Campaigns in their Sieges : And thus almost the entire *Spanish Netherlands*, which had been contended for so many Ages, were conquer'd in one Summer.

And whereas, We your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Commons, taking into our Consideration the many eminent Services of the said Duke of *Marlborough*, whereby the Glory of your Majesty's Government, the Honour and Safety of your Kingdoms, and the Interest of the Common Cause, have been so highly advanced, did with all Submission address our selves to your Majesty's most Sacred Person, humbly to desire, that as your Majesty is at your Expence graciously pleased to erect the House of *Blenheim*, as a Monument of his glorious Actions ; and the House of Peers, by your Majesty's Permission, have given rise to an Act, passed in this present Session, for continuing his Honours to his Posterity, We, your Majesty's most obedient Commons, might be permitted to express our Sense of so distinguishing a Merit, &c. Whereby the Gratitude of this whole Kingdom might remain upon Record to after-Ages, and encourage others to follow his great Example : And we think our selves obliged to transmit to all succeeding Times the Memory of so many glorious Actions, together with the just Sense of the Kingdom, after what manner such transcendent Merit ought to be rewarded ; And thereupon do most humbly beseech your Majesty, That it may be enacted, &c.

1707. March 13.

In the Commons Address to the Queen:

*May it please your Majesty !*

There can be nothing so dangerous or fatal to the Safety of your Royal Person, and the Security of the present happy Establishment, as those Persons who endeavour to create Divisions and Animosities among your Faithful Subjects, or by any artful Methods lessen the just Esteem your Majesty has for those who have so eminently, and in so distinguishing a manner,

com-

commanded your Armies, and managed your Treasure, to the Honour and Glory of your Majesty abroad, and the Entire Satisfaction of your People at home. We therefore humbly beg leave to beseech your Majesty, to discountenance all such Persons and Designs, in the most remarkable Manner.

In Her Majesty's Most Gracious Answer.

*I Think all who endeavour to make Divisions among my faithful Subjects, must be mine and the Kingdoms Enemies; and I shall never countenance any Persons, who would go about to lessen the just Esteem which I have for those who have done, and continue to do me the most eminent Services.*

24th Novemb. 1708.

*In the Commons Address to the Queen.*

THE great and signal Advantages that have been so wonderfully obtained, so vigorously prosecuted and improv'd, and upon all Occasions so happily accomplish'd, are repeated Instances, that no Difficulties are insuperable to your great Commanders, and no Force of the Enemy able to obstruct the Progrefs of your victorious Arms; which gives us good Grounds to hope for a further Succes, before the Conclusion of this long and active Campaign.

23d Decemb.

A Message from the Lords by Mr. Justice Powys, and Mr. Justice Dormer, That the Lords have agreed upon an Address to be presented to Her Majesty, to which they desire the Concurrence of this House.

Which Address was read, and with an Amendment agreed unto by the House, *Nemine Contradicente*, and is as followeth.

Die Jovis 23d Decemb.

*WE* your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Lords Spiritual and Temporal and Commons in Parliament assembled, do most humbly congratulate your Majesty

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Majesty upon the Reduction of Ghent, the last great Effort of this glorious Year; a Year that will be ever famous in History, as well for the entire Disappointment of all the Attempts, and Hopes of your Enemies, as for the many wonderful Successes, with which God has blessed the Arms of your Majesty and your Allies: The unusual Length of the Campaign, the variety of Events, and the Difficulty and Importance of the Actions, have given many Opportunities to your Majesty's General the Duke of Marlborough, to shew his consummate Ability, and all the great Qualities necessary for so high a Trust; whereby in Conjunction with the renown'd Prince Eugene of Savoy, such considerable Progress has been made and your Conquests so far advanced, that we have reason to hope the Enemy, in spight of all their Presumption will soon find themselves under an absolute Necessity o' submitting to a Safe and Honourable Peace.

*Ordered,*

That the Earl of Hertford do go to the Lords and acquaint them, that this House hath agreed to the said Address.

*10th Jan.*

Mr. Speaker reported to the House, That pursuant to their Orders, he did upon Thursday the 23d of December last, attend Her Majesty on the part of this House, and (with the Lord Chancellor) presented to Her Majesty the Address of both Houses, and that Her Majesty was pleased to give this most gracious Answer. *I give you many Thanks for your Address, and am extremely sensible of the Loyalty and Affection of both Houses of Parliament upon all Occasions.*

*7th Feb.*

Mr. Speaker acquainted the House, that in obedience to their Commands, he had transmitted to his Grace the Duke of Marlborough, their Thanks for the great and eminent Services performed by him the last Campaign: To which the Duke of Marlborough was pleased to return this Answer.

*SIR,*

*Brussels Feb. 13th 1709.*

*SIR,*

' I am very sensible of the great Honour which the  
 ' House of Commons have done me, in the Vote  
 ' you have been pleased to transmit to me by their  
 ' Order: Nothing can give me more Satisfaction,  
 ' than to find the Services I endeavoured to do the  
 ' Queen and my Country, so acceptable to the House  
 ' of Commons. And I beg the Favour of you to as-  
 ' sure them, I shall never think any Pains, or Perse-  
 ' verance too great, if I may (by God's Blessing) be  
 ' Instrumental in procuring a Safe and Honourable  
 ' Peace for Her Majesty and my Fellow Subjects; I  
 ' am with Truth      *Sir,*

*Your most Faithful  
 Humble Servant,*

*Marlborough.*

*15th Novemb.*

*Resolved Nemine Contradicente.*

That the late Victory obtained by his Grace the Duke of *Marlborough*, and the other great and important Successes of the last Campaign are so remarkable, that this House thinks it self obliged to express, how sensible they are of the Honour and Advantages which this Kingdom and the whole Confederacy have received by his eminent Services.

And that Mr. Comptroller, Mr. Secretary *Boyle*, Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. *Lechmere*, Mr. *Onslow*, Lord *Ceningsby*, Mr. *Nevill*, Lord *William Powlet*, Mr. *Craggs*, Mr. *Compton*, Mr. *Walpole*, Mr. *Dolben*, Sir *Charles Hedges*, Lord *Lumley*, and Sir *Charles Cox*, do give his Grace the Thanks of this House, and Congratulate his Grace's Safety and return to *Great Britain*.

In the House of Commons Address to the Queen.

*Most Gracious Sovereign,*

**W**E your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects the Commons in Parliament Assembled, beg leave to return our most humble Thanks to your Majesty,

Majesty, for your most Gracious Speech from the Throne, and to congratulate your Majesty upon the continued Successes of the last Campaign, particularly the Victory obtained near Mons, by the Troops of your Majesty, and those of your Allies, under the Command of the Duke of Marlborough.

A Victory so remarkable in all its Circumstances, as must convince your Enemies, that the Courage and Resolution of your Troops, conducted by so great a General, are Superior to the greatest Difficulties, &c.

In the Address of the Right Honourable the Lords Spiritual and Temporal in Parliament Assembled.

**T**H E last Campaign was so very glorious, whether we consider the Strength of the Towns which were taken, or the Difficulty and Importance of the Victory which was obtained ; that we beg leave to congratulate your Majesty, upon the continued Success of your Arms, and those of your Allies, under your General the Duke of Marlborongh ; whose Conduct is worthy of the Chief Command in so just a War, and whose Valour is equal to the Bravery of your Troops, &c.

Her Majesty's most Gracious Answer.

**I** Thank you very kindly for your Address, and am extremely Sensible of the Constant Proofs you give me of Your Zeal and Affection for my Service, and the Publick Good.

19th Novemb.

*Mr. Speaker reported that he with the House, did yesterday attend her Majesty with their Address, and that her Majesty was pleased to give a most Gracious Answer, viz.*

**I** Return you my Hearty Thanks for Your Address, and the Assurances you give Me of providing speedy and effectual Supplies for carrying on the War, which I persuade my self will have a very good Effect for the Advantage of the whole Confederacy.

( 26 )

15th February. 1709.

*Resolved,*

That an Humble Address be presented to her Majesty, that she will be pleased to send the Duke of Marlborough forthwith into Holland, where his Presence is absolutely Necessary, as well to attend the Negotiations now set on foot, in relation to a Peace, as to hasten the Preparations for an Early Campaign, being the most effectual way to disappoint the Artifices of our Enemies, and to procure a Safe and Honourable Peace for her Majesty and her Allies.

*Ordered,*

That a Committee be appointed to draw up an Address upon the said Resolution.

And a Committee was appointed accordingly.

16 January.

Sir Gilbert Heathcote reported from the Committee appointed to draw up an Address, to be presented to her Majesty upon the Resolution of the House yesterday, that they had drawn up an Address accordingly, which they had directed Him to report to the House, which he read in his Place, and afterwards delivered the same in at the Table, where it was read, and agreed unto by the House.

*Resolved,*

That the Concurrence of the Lords be desired to the said Address.

*Ordered,*

That Sir Gilbert Heathcote do carry this Address to the Lords, and desire their Concurrence thereunto.

Sir Gilbert Heathcote reported to the House, That he had (according to their Order,) been with the Lords with the Address, and desired their Concurrence thereunto, and left the Address with their Lordships.

17th February.

A Message from the Lords by Mr. Gery and Mr. Rogers, That the Lords had commanded them to acquaint this House, That their Lordships have agreed to the Address of this House with one Amendment, (viz.) by filling the Blank with the words, Lords Spiritual and Temporal.

Jovis

*Jovis 16th Die Februario 1709.*  
An Address to the Queen.

*Most Gracious Sovereign!*

WE Your Majesty's most Dutiful and Loyal Subjects the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons in Parliament assembled, having Reason to believe that the Negotiations of Peace will suddenly be renewed in *Holland*, and being justly apprehensive of the Crafty and insinuating Designs of our Enemies to create Divisions among Your Allies, or by amusing them with deceitful Expectations of Peace, to retard their Preparations for War; do think our Selves bound in Duty most Humbly to represent to Your Majesty, of how great Importance we conceive it is to the Interest of the Common Cause, that the Duke of *Marlborough* should be abroad at this critical Juncture.

We cannot but take this Opportunity, to express our Sense of the great and Unparallel'd Services of the Duke of *Marlborough*, and with all Imaginable Duty, to applaud Your Majesty's Great Wisdom, in having honour'd the same Person with the great Characters of General and Plenipotentiary, who in our Humble Opinion is most capable of discharging two such Important Trusts.

We therefore make it our Humble Request to your Majesty, that you would be pleased to order the Duke of *Marlborough*'s Immediate Departure for *Holland*, where his Presence will be equally necessary to assist at the Negotiations of Peace, and to hasten the Preparations for an early Campaign, which will most effectually disappoint the Artifices of our Enemies, and procure a Safe and Honourable Peace for your Majesty and your Allies.

*20th February.*

*Mr. Speaker reported to the House; That both Houses did upon Saturday last present their Humble Address to her Majesty, to which her Majesty was pleased to give this very Gracious Answer.*

*My Lords and Gentlemen !*

*I am so sensible of the necessity of the Duke of Marlborough's Presence in Holland at this critical Juncture, that I have already given the necessary Directions for his Imme-*

*Immediate Departure; and I am very glad by this Address, that you Concur with me in a just Sense of the Duke of Marlborough's Eminent Services.*

F I N I S.

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N B. The next day the D. of M. set out, and having made the necessary Dispositions for assembling the Troops early, left the Hague the 3d of April, and passed the Lines of the Deule and Scarpe without Opposition the 9th, and obliged the Enemy to retire under Cambray; after which he made, with his usual Success, the Sieges of Doway, Bethune, Aire, and St Venant; and had formed a Design upon L<sup>e</sup>og<sup>e</sup>n, which could not be executed for want of Time; it being the 4th of November before Aire Surrender'd, and he returned not to London till December 26th. Thanks to him for so glorious a Campaign, was moved in the H. of L<sup>e</sup>ads before his Return, but it was by some opposed; and for that Reason the Motion was not referred; but this did not slacken the Duke's Zeal for Her Majesty's Service. After about Six Weeks stay, he set out again for Holland Feb. 17. but for want of sufficient Magazines, could not take the Field till the 20th of April; by which time the Enemy had so posted themselves, that it was impossible to force the Passage of the Senet. However sometime after the Departure of Prince Eugene and the Imperial Troops, he found means to do it by Surprise, and without the loss of one Man July 24th. Next day in sight of the French he passed the Schelde, between Cambray and Bouchain, which last Place he invested with the utmost Difficulty; and after 20 days open Trenches, oblig'd them to surrender Prisoners of War. The Enemy having burnt and destroyed the Country about Quesnoy, to prevent the Siege of it, his Grace could do no more than form such a Scheme for Winter Quarters, as might secure the Progress of our Arms the next Year, and make it impossible for the Enemy to hinder the Siege of Cambray; the Plan of which he fixed before he left the Hague, and had actually taken some Measures in order to it. November 18th he returned to London, waited on the Q—— the same day, was dismissed Her Service December 31st; and the Conferences for a Peace were opened with the new Year.

F I N I S.